

14 July 2022 | 1100 hrs | 122/2022

Total inbound tourists for May 2022 were estimated at 221,299, while total nights spent amounted to 1,353,442.

Inbound Tourism: May 2022

During the month under review, a total of 197,007 inbound tourists visited Malta for holiday purposes, followed by 17,268 tourists for business purposes. The largest share of inbound tourists were aged between 25-44 (42.5 per cent), followed by the 45-64 age bracket (28.5 per cent) (Table 1). French, German and Italian residents made up 35.2 per cent of total inbound tourists (Table 5).

The largest share of guest nights (86.8 per cent) was spent in rented accommodation establishments (Table 3). The average length of stay of total inbound tourists stood at 6.1 nights (Table 1). Total tourist expenditure almost reached €174.8 million. The average expenditure per night was estimated at €129.1 (Table 4).

January-May 2022

Inbound tourists for the first five months of 2022 amounted to 651,140, while the total nights spent surpassed 4.4 million nights (Tables 6, 7 and 8). Total tourist expenditure was estimated at €479.9 million (Table 9). Total expenditure per capita stood at €737, decreasing from €870 in 2021 (Table 11).

COVID-19 recovery

Comparison can be made between 2019 and 2022 May data to quantify the recovery of inbound tourism from the effects of the pandemic. The year 2019 will be used here as the reference year for the pre-COVID-19 situation.

Total inbound tourists for the month under review have reached 84.4 per cent of those registered pre-COVID-19 (Table 1), and the associated nights spent made up 82.5 per cent of the respective figure (Table 3). The highest recovery can be seen in the 0-24 age bracket (102.0 per cent) and the lowest recovery is associated with the 65+ age bracket (72.0 per cent) (Table 1). The segment of inbound tourists visiting Malta for business purposes experienced a better recovery (94.9 per cent) than that of tourists visiting Malta for holiday purposes (84.5 per cent) (Table 1).

Total tourist expenditure has reached 85.9 per cent of its respective pre-COVID-19 value (Table 4) ■

Chart 1. Inbound tourists

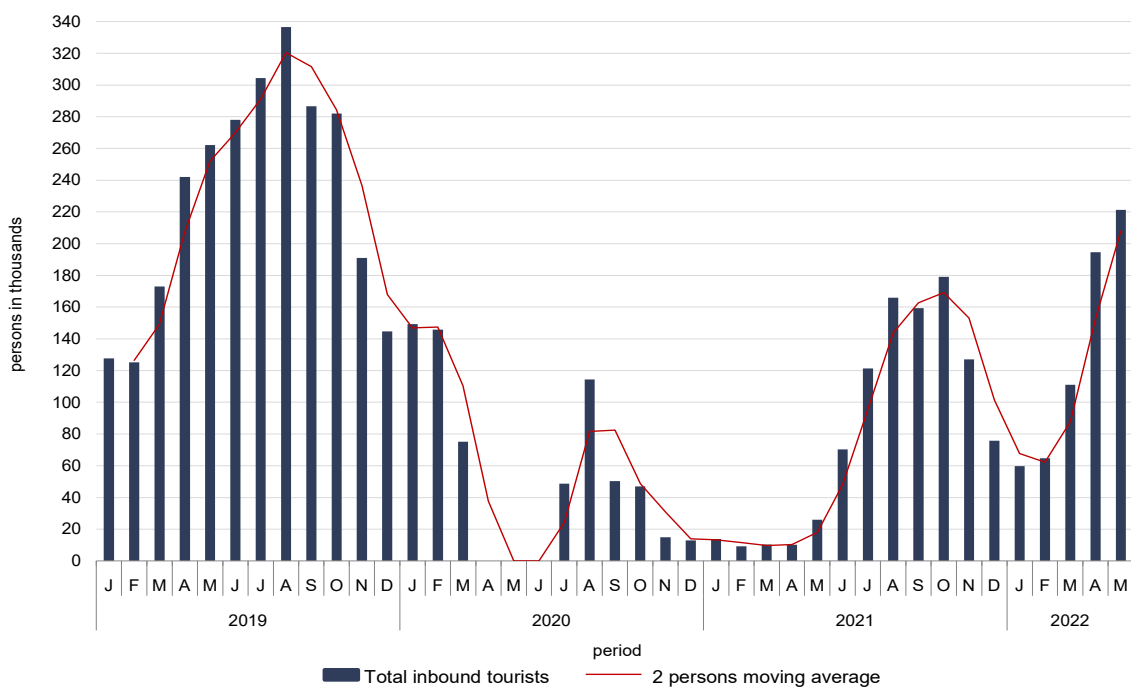


Table 1. Profile of inbound tourists by month of departure

Characteristics	May			
	2019	2020 ¹	2021	2022
Total inbound visitors	265,701	-	25,954	226,987
Overnight cruise passengers	3,627	-	-	5,688
Inbound tourists	262,074	-	25,954	221,299
Mode of travel				
Air	257,387	-	23,556	218,038
Sea	4,687	-	2,398	3,261 ^P
Sex				
Males	129,739	-	15,175	110,668
Females	132,335	-	10,779	110,632
Age group				
0-24	39,495	-	5,856	40,294
25-44	112,027	-	12,014	94,012
45-64	77,229	-	6,935	62,995
65 or more	33,323	-	1,149	23,998
Markets²				
EU	219,890	-	23,000	157,181
<i>of which: Euro area</i>	125,633	-	19,813	123,829
Non-EU	42,184	-	2,954	64,118
Purpose of visit				
Holiday	233,139	-	20,105	197,007
Business and professional	18,204	-	4,126	17,268
Other (including educational, religious and health tourism)	10,732	-	1,723	7,024
Organisation of stay				
Package	76,310	-	3,446	51,170
Non-package	185,764	-	22,508	170,129
Frequency				
First-time tourists	195,753	-	16,372	173,961
Repeat tourists	66,321	-	9,582	47,338
once a year or less	51,531	-	5,456	34,950
more than once a year	14,790	-	4,126	12,388
Duration of visit				
1-3 nights	66,839	-	6,047	64,075
4-6 nights	86,997	-	5,639	77,769
7 nights or more	108,239	-	14,268	79,456
Average length of stay (nights)	6.3	-	10.9	6.1

^P Data for May 2022 is provisional as it is an estimation due to delayed data communication from source.

¹ Refer to methodological note 5.

² Refer to methodological note 6 .

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 2. Inbound tourists by month of departure and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	May			
	2019	2020 ¹	2021	2022
Rented accommodation	229,163	-	19,018	198,907
Collective	166,251	-	13,944	147,254
Other rented	62,912	-	5,074	51,653
Non-rented accommodation	32,912	-	6,936	22,392
Total tourists	262,074	-	25,954	221,299

¹ Refer to methodological note 5.

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 3. Total nights spent by inbound tourists by month of departure and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	May			
	2019	2020 ¹	2021	2022
Rented accommodation	1,385,809	-	169,513	1,174,886
Collective	892,449	-	87,880	805,241
Other rented	493,360	-	81,633	369,646
Non-rented accommodation	254,449	-	114,255	178,556
Total nights	1,640,258	-	283,769	1,353,442

¹ Refer to methodological note 5.

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 4. Total expenditure by inbound tourists by month of departure and expenditure category

€ 000

Expenditure category	May			
	2019	2020 ¹	2021	2022
Package	47,830	-	2,503	37,220
Non-package	80,230	-	9,244	69,682
Air/sea fares	40,360	-	4,285	27,226
Accommodation	39,870	-	4,959	42,456
Other expenditure	75,481	-	9,346	67,877
Total expenditure	203,541	-	21,093	174,779

¹ Refer to methodological note 5.

Notes:

1. Expenditure estimates are rounded to the nearest thousand Euro.
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 5. Inbound tourists, nights spent and total expenditure by month of departure and country of residence

Country of residence ²		May			
		2019	2020 ¹	2021	2022
Tourists	EU	219,890	-	23,000	157,181
	<i>of which:</i>				
	France	26,286	-	6,076	29,177
	Germany	18,408	-	3,824	15,772
	Italy	34,406	-	5,895	32,937
	Poland	9,654	-	2,069	14,835
	Spain	10,026	-	1,023 ^u	8,189
	United Kingdom	64,620	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Non-EU	42,184	-	2,954	64,118
	<i>of which:</i>				
United Kingdom	n/a	-	679 ^u	42,591	
Total	262,074	-	25,954	221,299	
Nights	EU	1,331,626	-	237,387	908,707
	<i>of which:</i>				
	France	165,535	-	51,275	170,878
	Germany	117,061	-	30,721	110,551
	Italy	193,372	-	88,529	169,293
	Poland	59,827	-	15,283	83,597
	Spain	47,297	-	12,554 ^u	51,524
	United Kingdom	409,107	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Non-EU	308,632	-	46,382	444,735
	<i>of which:</i>				
United Kingdom	n/a	-	15,168 ^u	287,128	
Total	1,640,258	-	283,769	1,353,442	
Expenditure (€ 000)	EU	159,461	-	17,100	110,068
	<i>of which:</i>				
	France	19,850	-	4,098	21,048
	Germany	15,047	-	3,303	15,931
	Italy	19,057	-	4,133	16,188
	Poland	6,318	-	1,218	9,939
	Spain	5,721	-	777 ^u	5,788
	United Kingdom	52,350	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Non-EU	44,080	-	3,992	64,711
	<i>of which:</i>				
United Kingdom	n/a	-	685 ^u	41,519	
Total	203,541	-	21,093	174,779	

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

¹ Refer to methodological note 5.

² Refer to methodological note 6.

Notes:

1. Expenditure estimates are rounded to the nearest thousand Euro.
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 6. Profile of inbound tourists by period of departure

Characteristics	January-May			
	2019	2020 ¹	2021	2022
Total inbound visitors	935,965	371,109	70,497	670,493
Overnight cruise passengers	5,986	893	1,110	19,353
Inbound tourists	929,979	370,216	69,387	651,140
Mode of travel				
Air	911,901	363,343	59,810	637,810
Sea	18,079	6,873	9,577	13,330 ^P
Sex				
Males	458,150	194,089	43,234	328,331
Females	471,830	176,127	26,153	322,809
Age group				
0-24	155,301	63,415	14,278	131,120
25-44	371,983	143,399	33,674	268,774
45-64	293,257	125,780	18,137	191,338
65 or more	109,438	37,622	3,299	59,907
Markets²				
EU	790,375	222,489	59,391	469,887
<i>of which: Euro area</i>	458,711	174,523	52,145	361,289
Non-EU	139,604	147,727	9,996	181,253
Purpose of visit				
Holiday	813,796	320,897	50,320	574,996
Business and professional	74,022	34,275	13,191	45,883
Other (including educational, religious and health tourism)	42,162	15,043	5,876	30,260
Organisation of stay				
Package	291,281	108,985	8,056	151,296
Non-package	638,699	261,231	61,331	499,844
Frequency				
First-time tourists	689,240	269,022	38,923	483,802
Repeat tourists	240,739	101,194	30,464	167,338
once a year or less	171,514	69,689	15,918	113,846
more than once a year	69,226	31,505	14,546	53,492
Duration of visit				
1-3 nights	251,875	121,427	16,039	179,566
4-6 nights	304,416	121,082	12,850	227,976
7 nights or more	373,688	127,707	40,498	243,597
Average length of stay (nights)	6.4	6.0	13.2	6.8

^P Data for May 2022 is provisional as it is an estimation due to delayed data communication from source

¹ Refer to methodological note 5.

² Refer to methodological note 6.

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 7. Inbound tourists by period of departure and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	January-May			
	2019	2020 ¹	2021	2022
Rented accommodation	817,869	324,582	46,479	571,922
Collective	619,200	251,231	32,402	439,401
Other rented	198,669	73,351	14,077	132,521
Non-rented accommodation	112,110	45,634	22,908	79,218
Total tourists	929,979	370,216	69,387	651,140

¹ Refer to methodological note 5.

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 8. Total nights spent by inbound tourists by period of departure and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	January-May			
	2019	2020 ¹	2021	2022
Rented accommodation	4,988,468	1,831,284	495,489	3,660,089
Collective	3,355,275	1,281,560	228,986	2,432,907
Other rented	1,633,193	549,724	266,503	1,227,182
Non-rented accommodation	961,142	407,942	421,708	744,576
Total nights	5,949,610	2,239,226	917,196	4,404,665

¹ Refer to methodological note 5.

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 9. Inbound tourists, nights spent and total expenditure by period of departure and country of residence

Country of residence					
		2019	2020 ¹	2021	2022
Tourists	Australia	9,253	2,433 ^u	242 ^u	2,069
	Austria	12,993	3,295 ^u	596 ^u	11,081
	Belgium	26,679	11,553	2,322	19,000
	France	82,106	28,266	14,206	80,437
	Germany	76,948	26,610	7,006	48,884
	Hungary	10,814	4,454	:	11,258
	Ireland	16,939	7,741	:	11,105
	Italy	134,000	44,049	20,857	96,372
	Netherlands	19,407	8,943	1,044	19,164
	Poland	39,102	19,627	3,444	51,324
	Scandinavia ²	39,389	13,728	1,714	21,397
	Spain	36,958	16,671	2,376	24,269
	Switzerland	15,001	4,699	1,539	8,570
	United Kingdom	223,088	88,094	2,197	128,395
	USA	17,031	7,439	692 ^u	10,047
	Other	170,271	82,613	10,669	107,769
Total	929,979	370,216	69,387	651,140	
Nights	Australia	81,667	20,572 ^u	2,888 ^u	18,478
	Austria	73,981	20,088 ^u	6,962 ^u	58,653
	Belgium	159,985	57,407	28,196	122,879
	France	515,819	168,423	149,314	526,232
	Germany	503,789	174,626	72,359	355,976
	Hungary	53,309	20,479	:	57,014
	Ireland	108,778	46,739	:	64,347
	Italy	764,084	258,722	312,374	632,627
	Netherlands	131,762	45,102	17,937	178,858
	Poland	235,568	110,006	30,883	281,216
	Scandinavia ²	264,524	87,610	21,568	162,870
	Spain	180,637	81,324	31,860	174,928
	Switzerland	100,255	23,751	18,890	55,872
	United Kingdom	1,417,783	546,013	52,723	850,442
	USA	93,145	45,280	8,611 ^u	79,456
	Other	1,264,524	533,082	153,677	784,817
Total	5,949,610	2,239,226	917,196	4,404,665	
Expenditure (€ 000)	Australia	12,918	2,757 ^u	213 ^u	3,747
	Austria	10,213	2,438 ^u	572 ^u	7,486
	Belgium	17,074	5,861	2,084	13,701
	France	55,932	16,964	11,845	56,789
	Germany	56,062	17,424	6,579	43,260
	Hungary	5,453	2,011	:	5,100
	Ireland	12,709	5,052	:	8,628
	Italy	67,184	20,739	13,696	49,052
	Netherlands	13,185	4,783	1,060	16,160
	Poland	22,101	9,371	2,214	28,659
	Scandinavia ²	30,535	9,858	1,930	20,938
	Spain	18,349	7,766	2,017	15,214
	Switzerland	14,512	3,466	2,159	8,983
	United Kingdom	152,307	51,259	2,197	108,682
	USA	17,970	7,596	1,175 ^u	13,865
	Other	141,569	57,241	11,920	79,661
Total	648,073	224,582	60,372	479,924	

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

¹ Refer to methodological note 5.

² Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden.

Notes:

1. Expenditure estimates are rounded to the nearest thousand Euro.
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 10. Total expenditure of inbound tourists by expenditure category, period of departure and country of residence ...

€ 000

Country of residence	Package expenditure	Non-package expenditure		Other expenditure	Total
		Air/sea fares	Accommodation		
January-May 2022					
Australia	:	1,327	618 ^u	1,712	3,747
Austria	1,643 ^u	953	1,946	2,944	7,486
Belgium	1,883 ^u	2,500	3,608	5,710	13,701
France	13,135	8,227	12,497	22,930	56,789
Germany	11,548	6,727	9,331	15,654	43,260
Hungary	:	724	1,251	2,765	5,100
Ireland	1,166 ^u	1,562	1,997	3,903	8,628
Italy	6,051	6,001	11,844	25,156	49,052
Netherlands	2,737	2,620	3,626	7,176	16,160
Poland	5,875	3,579	6,286	12,918	28,659
Scandinavia ²	5,169	3,538	3,784	8,446	20,938
Spain	1,860 ^u	2,335	3,991	7,027	15,214
Switzerland	1,916 ^u	1,393	2,254	3,421	8,983
United Kingdom	30,420	14,032	22,583	41,648	108,682
USA	:	5,448	3,017	4,691	13,865
Other	8,106	14,471	20,615	36,470	79,661
Total	92,667	75,437	109,248	202,572	479,924
January-May 2021					
Australia	:	20 ^u	79 ^u	114 ^u	213 ^u
Austria	:	143	:	239	572
Belgium	:	481 ^u	556 ^u	957	2,084
France	1,335 ^u	2,472	2,818	5,220	11,845
Germany	1,123	1,459	1,371	2,626	6,579
Hungary	:	:	:	:	:
Ireland	:	:	:	:	:
Italy	1,273	2,490	2,344	7,589	13,696
Netherlands	:	250 ^u	243 ^u	561 ^u	1,060 ^u
Poland	225	382	501 ^u	1,106	2,214
Scandinavia ²	:	395 ^u	490 ^u	1,014 ^u	1,930 ^u
Spain	:	456	392 ^u	1,070	2,017
Switzerland	:	358 ^u	411 ^u	908 ^u	2,159 ^u
United Kingdom	:	435	423	1,258	2,197
USA	:	302 ^u	484 ^u	368 ^u	1,175 ^u
Other	1,204 ^u	3,199	2,587	4,931	11,920
Total	5,996	12,965	13,021	28,390	60,372
January-May 2020¹					
Australia	:	1,134 ^u	430 ^u	933 ^u	2,757 ^u
Austria	1,121 ^u	293 ^u	:	720 ^u	2,438 ^u
Belgium	955 ^u	1,153	1,243	2,511	5,861
France	4,752	2,819	3,187	6,207	16,964
Germany	6,121	2,509	2,905	5,888	17,424
Hungary	:	482	464	888	2,011
Ireland	837 ^u	899	1,083	2,232	5,052
Italy	3,166	3,696	4,029	9,848	20,739
Netherlands	786 ^u	1,019	867	2,110	4,783
Poland	2,003	1,871	2,060	3,437	9,371
Scandinavia ²	2,073	2,235	1,712	3,837	9,858
Spain	845 ^u	1,682	1,816	3,423	7,766
Switzerland	913 ^u	688	599 ^u	1,266	3,466
United Kingdom	16,706	7,246	7,390	19,916	51,259
USA	:	3,228	1,748	2,009	7,596
Other	8,963	14,914	10,356	23,007	57,241
Total	50,288	45,869	40,192	88,233	224,582

... Table 10. Total expenditure of inbound tourists by expenditure category, period of departure and country of residence

€ 000

Country of residence	Package expenditure	Non-package expenditure		Other expenditure	Total
		Air/sea fares	Accommodation		
January-May 2019					
Australia	1,784	4,653 ^u	2,034 ^u	4,447 ^u	12,918^u
Austria	3,397 ^u	1,341 ^u	1,820	3,655 ^u	10,213^u
Belgium	4,751 ^u	2,576	3,616	6,131	17,074
France	17,085	8,992	10,787	19,067	55,932
Germany	21,625	7,240	9,237	17,960	56,062
Hungary	641	1,261	1,315	2,236	5,453
Ireland	2,214 ^u	2,189	2,634	5,672	12,709
Italy	11,882	11,363	13,753	30,186	67,184
Netherlands	2,967 ^u	2,435	2,662	5,121	13,185
Poland	5,193	3,433	4,196	9,280	22,101
Scandinavia ²	8,175	5,208	5,116	12,036	30,535
Spain	3,384 ^u	3,256	3,954	7,754	18,349
Switzerland	4,253 ^u	2,175	3,067 ^u	5,016	14,512
United Kingdom	48,611	19,603	25,093	59,000	152,307
USA	1,703	6,912	4,198	5,156	17,970
Other	24,658	36,168	28,774	51,969	141,569
Total	162,323	118,805	122,257	244,688	648,073

: Unreliable, less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

¹ Refer to methodological note 5.

² Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden.

Notes:

1. Expenditure estimates are rounded to the nearest thousand Euro.
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 11. Per capita expenditure of inbound tourists by expenditure category, period of departure and country of residence ...

€

Country of residence	Package expenditure	Non-package expenditure		Other expenditure	Total expenditure per capita
		Air/sea fares	Accommodation		
January-May 2022					
Australia	:	666	396 ^u	827	1,811
Austria	601 ^u	114	259	266	676
Belgium	620 ^u	157	263	301	721
France	580	142	233	285	706
Germany	833	191	299	320	885
Hungary	:	71	141	246	453
Ireland	626 ^u	169	263	351	777
Italy	486	71	184	261	509
Netherlands	619	176	275	374	843
Poland	409	97	175	252	558
Scandinavia ²	409	97	175	252	558
Spain	599 ^u	110	220	290	627
Switzerland	697 ^u	230	410	399	1,048
United Kingdom	638	173	360	324	846
USA	:	597	398	467	1,380
Other	700	150	246	338	739
Total expenditure per capita	612	150	257	311	737
January-May 2021					
Australia	:	82 ^u	326 ^u	469 ^u	877 ^u
Austria	:	252 ^u	:	402 ^u	959
Belgium	:	220	400	412	898
France	707	200	288	367	834
Germany	904 ^u	251	320	375	939
Hungary	:	:	:	:	:
Ireland	:	:	:	:	:
Italy	502	136	266	364	657
Netherlands	:	243	365 ^u	538	1,015
Poland	446 ^u	130	223	321	643
Scandinavia ²	:	240	546 ^u	592	1,126
Spain	:	203	288	450	849
Switzerland	:	255	377 ^u	590	1,403
United Kingdom	:	206	658 ^u	573	1,000
USA	:	461 ^u	945 ^u	531 ^u	1,699 ^u
Other	983 ^u	338	399	462	1,117
Total expenditure per capita	544	211	333	409	870
January-May 2020¹					
Australia	:	537 ^u	261 ^u	384 ^u	1,133 ^u
Austria	631 ^u	193 ^u	:	218 ^u	740 ^u
Belgium	373 ^u	128	161	217	507
France	453	158	193	220	600
Germany	544	163	211	221	655
Hungary	:	127	130	199	451
Ireland	490 ^u	149	196	288	653
Italy	409	102	153	224	471
Netherlands	310 ^u	159	152	236	535
Poland	353	133	156	175	477
Scandinavia ²	511	231	211	279	718
Spain	324 ^u	120	147	205	466
Switzerland	616 ^u	214	222 ^u	269	737
United Kingdom	422	149	198	226	582
USA	:	465	281	270	1,021
Other	562	223	189	278	693
Total expenditure per capita	461	175	185	238	607

... Table 11. Per capita expenditure of inbound tourists by expenditure category, period of departure and country of residence

€

Country of residence	Package expenditure	Non-package expenditure		Other expenditure	Total expenditure per capita
		Air/sea fares	Accommodation		
January-May 2019					
Australia	1,266 ^u	579	304	481	1,396
Austria	620	172	250	281	786
Belgium	605	135	212	230	640
France	565	173	226	232	681
Germany	586	180	261	233	729
Hungary	351 ^u	140	171	207	504
Ireland	488	177	245	335	750
Italy	422	107	170	225	501
Netherlands	538	174	233	264	679
Poland	425	127	170	237	565
Scandinavia ²	547	213	261	306	775
Spain	382	116	157	210	496
Switzerland	831	220	354	334	967
United Kingdom	541	147	247	264	683
USA	922 ^u	455	311	303	1,055
Other	675	268	253	305	831
Total expenditure per capita	557	185	230	263	697

: Unreliable, less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

¹ Refer to methodological note 5.

² Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden.

Table 12. Profile of overnight cruise passengers by month of departure

Characteristics	May			
	2019	2020 ¹	2021	2022
Total overnight cruise passengers	3,627	-	-	5,688
Sex				
Males	1,628	-	-	2,690
Females	1,999	-	-	2,998
Age group				
0-19	53	-	-	278
20-39	254	-	-	950
40-59	939	-	-	2,113
60-79	1,962	-	-	2,223
80 or more	419	-	-	124
Markets				
EU	3,436	-	-	3,016
<i>of which</i> : Euro area	3,420	-	-	2,940
Non-EU	191	-	-	2,672

¹ In view of the COVID-19 situation, the last cruise liner call was on 10 March 2020.

Table 13. Profile of overnight cruise passengers by period of departure

Characteristics	January-May			
	2019	2020 ¹	2021	2022
Total overnight cruise passengers	5,986	893	1,110	19,353
Sex				
Males	2,699	426	528	8,932
Females	3,287	467	582	10,421
Age group				
0-19	486	1	236	1,851
20-39	572	19	358	2,310
40-59	1,792	31	385	6,447
60-79	2,626	446	125	8,236
80 or more	510	396	6	509
Markets²				
EU	5,456	14	1,018	4,403
<i>of which</i> : Euro area	5,416	11	1,010	4,291
Non-EU	530	879	92	14,950

¹ In view of the COVID-19 situation, the last cruise liner call was on 10 March 2020.

² Refer to methodological note 6.

Methodological Notes

1. This release focuses on Inbound Tourism, which comprises activities of non-resident visitors travelling to Malta (i.e. outside their usual environment) and staying for not more than 12 consecutive months for leisure, business or other (corresponding) purposes.
2. Inbound tourism data are collected from an ongoing frontier national survey known as Tourstat. Tourist air departures are collected through a continuous survey carried out at the departure lounge of the Malta International Airport. A two-stage sampling design is used to collect data on air passengers. In the first stage, alternate days and nights are selected. In the second stage, within each shift, a sample of air passengers is selected systematically. Every crossing air passenger is counted and respondents are selected using a pre-defined interval of 1:20, with the exception of July 2020 and the period October 2020 to June 2021, where the pre-defined interval was 1:10.
3. Tourstat measures the number of tourist trips carried out during a particular reference month. These differ from the number of tourists in that the same person can make more than one trip during the same period.
4. Tourist sea departures is supplemented by administrative data provided by ferry operators.
5. Statistics in this News Release should be interpreted in the context of the COVID-19 situation. In view of the pandemic, the Tourstat survey was suspended between 12 March and 30 June 2020. Statistical methods were applied to cover the period from 13 March to 20 March 2020, when scheduled passenger flights were still in operation.

The following is the related chronology of events happened during 2020 in Malta:

28th February	People flying in from Italy, China (including Hong Kong), Singapore, Japan, Iran and South Korea from 26th February onwards needed to stay in quarantine for 14 days upon arrival.
8th March	Flights from/to Milan were suspended.
10th March	Flights from/to Italy were suspended.
10th March	The last cruise liner call.
11th March	Flights from/to France, Switzerland, Germany and Spain, were suspended.
11th March	People flying in from France, Switzerland, Germany and Spain, needed to stay in quarantine for 14 days upon arrival.
13th March	All people flying in from all destinations needed to stay in quarantine for 14 days upon arrival.
18th March	The last Virtu' Ferries service for passengers between Malta and Sicily.
21st March	All flights from/to all destinations were suspended.
1st July	Re-opening of Malta International Airport. The first group of destinations that reopened for travel comprised: Germany, Austria, Italy, France, Spain, Poland, Cyprus, Switzerland, Iceland, Slovakia, Norway, Denmark, Hungary, Finland, Ireland, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Luxembourg, Czech Republic, Greece and Croatia.
15th July	Restrictions on all other flight destinations were lifted.
21st August	First cruise liner call since March 2020.

Sources: Malta Tourism Authority, Virtu' Ferries, Transport Malta and Valletta Cruise Port.

6. Owing to the UK's exit from the European Union (with effect from 1 February 2020), UK data is statistically classified as Non-EU from February 2020. Comparability between cumulative tables and also between comparative periods should be treated with caution.
7. The monthly passenger departures data published by the Malta International Airport cannot be equated to the number of inbound tourists, because the former is inclusive of departing Maltese and transit passengers.
8. Data on cruise passengers who spent at least one night berthed on board their cruise ship in Malta ('Overnight Cruise Passengers') is compiled on the basis of administrative records supplied by Transport Malta.
9. Arrivals and nights spent in time-share accommodation are being categorised in 'Non-rented Accommodation' instead of 'Collective Accommodation' as per Eurostat recommendation. In this regard, there may be minor differences in these statistics and statistics published in tourism supply due to the fact that hotels report time-share accommodation under 'Collective Accommodation'.
10. Prior to comparing and interpreting differences between demand-side (based on Tourstat) and supply-side (based on Accomstat) tourism statistics, users are strongly advised to consult concept 15.4 of the NSO's metadata file: <https://metadata.nso.gov.mt/reports.aspx?id=37#>
11. Data included in this release are based on sample data and are therefore subject to sampling error. Sampling error is measured by a quantity known as the margin of error, which in turn, expresses the variability between the true population parameters and their corresponding sample estimates. In the table below, the margin of error is used to construct a set of 95 per cent confidence intervals for the main indicators, which gives an indication of where the true population parameters lie.

Sampling variability of inbound tourism figures

	Estimate	Margin of error	95% confidence interval
Inbound tourists	221,299	2,200	221,299 ± 2,200
Total nights	1,353,442	62,232	1,353,442 ± 62,232
Total expenditure (€ 000)	174,779	5,070	174,779 ± 5,070

- **Usual environment:** The geographical area, though not necessarily a contiguous one, within which an individual conducts his regular life routines and shall be determined on the basis of the following criteria: the crossing of administrative borders or the distance from the place of usual residence, the duration of visit, the frequency of visit, the purpose of visit.
- **Resident:** A person is considered to be a resident of Malta/Gozo if:
 - a. S/he has lived for most of the past 12 months in Malta/Gozo;
 - b. S/he has lived in Malta/Gozo for less than 12 months but intends to return within a year to settle here.
- **Traveller:** A person who moves between different geographic locations, for any purpose and any duration.
- **Visitor:** The three fundamental criteria used to distinguish visitors from travellers are:
 - a. **The trip should be to a place other than that of the usual environment**, which would exclude short-distance local transport and commuting, i.e. more or less regular trips between the place of work/study and the place of residence;
 - b. **The stay in the place visited should not last more than twelve consecutive months**, beyond which the visitor would become a resident of that place (from the statistical standpoint);
 - c. **The main purpose of the visit should be other than the exercise of an activity remunerated from within the place visited**, which would exclude migratory movements for work purposes.
- **Tourist:** A visitor who stays at least one night in a rented and non-rented accommodation in the place/country visited.
- **Inbound tourism:** Comprises the activities of non-resident visitors travelling to Malta (i.e. outside their usual environment) and staying for not more than 12 consecutive months for personal, business or other purposes.
- **Total nights spent:** Nights which a guest actually spends or is registered to spend in a rented accommodation establishment or in a non-rented accommodation.
- **Average length of stay:** The number of nights spent divided by the number of trips during a specified reference period.
- **Rented accommodation:** Consists of the following two sub-categories:
 - a. **Collective accommodation:** comprises hotels, guesthouses, hostels, tourist villages, holiday complexes, Bed & Breakfast and campsites.
 - b. **Other rented accommodation:** comprises holiday furnished premises (farmhouses, flats and villas), host families, marinas, paid-convents, rented yachts and student dormitories.
- **Non-rented accommodation:** Comprises own private residence (owned dwellings, owned caravans and yachts), staying with friends or relatives (even if charged - includes also friends' private apartments) and other private accommodation (oil rig, free-convents or timeshare, etc.).
- **Total expenditure:** Refers to the amount that is going to be paid for the acquisition of consumption goods and services, as well as valuables during tourism trips. It includes expenditures by visitors themselves, as well as expenses that are paid for or reimbursed by others. The total expenditure is broken down by the following expenditure items:
 - a. **Package expenditure:** refers to the whole amount of money spent on transport, accommodation and other services such as rental of a car, activities or outings during the trip.
 - b. **Non-package expenditure:** is the amount of money spent on transport and accommodation reported separately.
 - c. **Other expenditure:** is the amount spent on shopping, souvenirs, tickets for concerts or sports events, entrance to museums or zoos and day excursions during a tourism trip. It also includes durables and valuable goods, that is, the amount spent on cars, computers, paintings, jewellery and works of art.

13. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:

Sources and methods: https://nso.gov.mt/en/nso/Sources_and_Methods/Unit_C3/Tourism_Statistics/Pages/TOURSTAT-Survey.aspx
 Statistical concepts: <https://metadata.nso.gov.mt/concepts.aspx>
 Metadata: <https://metadata.nso.gov.mt/reports.aspx?id=37>
 Statistical database: <https://statdb.nso.gov.mt/start>

14. References to this news release are to be cited appropriately.

For further assistance send a request from:

<https://workflow.gov.mt/Runtime/Runtime/Form/01+NSO+Request+for+Statistical+Information/?language=en>

15. A detailed news release calendar is available on:

https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/Release_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx